



Crop Progress and Condition

National Agricultural Statistics Service

United States Department of Agriculture • Washington, DC 20250

Northwest Regional Field Office • Olympia, WA 98507

Alaska Field Office • Palmer, AK 99645

1-800-478-6079 • www.nass.usda.gov/ak



For Week Ending: August 30, 2015

Released: August 31, 2015

ALASKA: There were **4.0 days suitable for fieldwork** last week. Temperatures last week ranged from nine degrees below normal around Delta Junction to 6 degrees above normal on Kodiak. Precipitation was heavy at times last week in the Tanana Valley, with lighter amounts falling over the other major growing areas.. **Wind and rain damage to crops** was reported as 95% none, 5% moderate.

TANANA VALLEY: An average of **2.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. First cutting **hay harvest** was reported as 94% complete; second cutting was 10% complete as rain again hampered harvest. **Farm activities** for the week included preparing for grain harvest, baling high moisture hay, fence construction and maintenance.

MATANUSKA VALLEY: An average of **6.5 days was suitable for fieldwork**. First cutting **hay harvest** was reported as 99% complete. Second cutting was 20% complete. **Farm activities** for the week included harvesting hay, small grains and vegetables, irrigation, general farm maintenance.

KENAI PENINSULA: An average of **5.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. First cutting **hay harvest** was reported as 100% complete. **Farm activities** for the week included general farm maintenance and equipment repair.

Soil Moisture -- Alaska

	Very short (percent)	Short (percent)	Adequate (percent)	Surplus (percent)
Topsoil Moisture – State.....	5	5	75	15
Tanana Valley.....	0	0	70	30
Matanuska Valley.....	20	10	70	0
Kenai Peninsula.....	0	0	100	0
Subsoil Moisture – State	5	10	85	0
Tanana Valley.....	0	0	100	0
Matanuska Valley.....	15	25	60	0
Kenai Peninsula.....	0	0	100	0

Soil Temperatures (F°) at 4 inch depth

	Grass			Fallow land			Temperature		Precipitation (inches)
	2015	2014	2013	2015	2014	2013	High	Low	
UAF-AFES, Trunk Rd.....	52	55	na	46	51	na	69	32	0.17
Sawmill Creek.....	47	49	51	na	na	na	58	27	0.86
Plant Materials Center.....	na	53	57	na	54	55	70	34	0.03

Pan Evaporation^{1/} UAF-AFES, Matanuska Experiment Farm, Palmer: 0.757

^{1/} Pan evaporation is an indirect estimation of evapotranspiration or consumptive water use by plants. For purposes of watering or irrigation of plants, it is a good indicator of climatic effects on water use by crops. A positive reading indicates that evaporation exceeded precipitation. na – not available.

Crop Progress -- Alaska

	Percent completed			
	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Barley Ripe.....	30	10	23	52
Oats Turning Color	45	30	23	59
First Cutting Hay Harvested.....	97	95	97	98
Second Cutting Hay Harvested.....	15	10	10	24

na – not available

Crop Condition -- Alaska

	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Barley.....	5	15	40	40	0
Oats.....	0	10	50	40	0
Potatoes.....	0	5	30	50	15
Hay.....	0	5	45	35	15
Range and pasture.....	0	15	45	35	5

Weekly Weather Statistics — Alaska: August 24 - August 30, 2015

Weather station	Air temperature				Last week precipitation		Season cumulative precipitation			Growing degree days		
	Hi	Low	AVG	DFN	Total inches	Days	Total inches	DFN	Days	Base 50		Base 40
										Total	DFN	Total
Fairbanks International.....	58	38	48	-6	1.69	5	6.68	+1.26	45	1,026	+107	2,181
Fairbanks-Eielson	64	38	48	-6	1.99	7	8.60	+1.72	50	809	-65	1,932
Nenana	59	32	48	-5	1.68	6	5.89	+0.56	42	997	+210	2,141
Fort Greely-Allen.....	58	33	45	-9	0.89	5	7.31	-0.67	42	855	+42	1,966
Healy River Airport.....	58	33	47	-6	1.34	6	8.88	+0.85	69	748	+96	1,868
Gulkana Airport.....	65	29	48	-3	0.33	3	6.16	+0.46	33	662	+199	1,766
Sutton	64	35	51	-3	0.23	4	8.91	+1.82	69	616	+136	1,739
Palmer	68	32	51	-4	0.22	3	3.64	-2.60	34	855	+229	2,041
Talkeetna.....	68	29	50	-4	0.38	3	8.19	-3.47	50	833	+202	1,989
Willow Airport.....	67	37	54	-1	0.21	4	7.49	+1.54	62	931	+299	2,109
Anchorage International	69	40	55	+1	0.03	1	4.82	-1.47	36	996	+366	2,158
Kenai	67	35	53	+1	0.02	2	4.88	-1.43	45	486	+124	1,542
Homer.....	68	41	54	+2	0.06	1	3.19	-2.47	39	611	+294	1,784
Kodiak.....	72	48	59	+6	0.16	1	14.74	-5.35	59	643	+297	1,728

Summary based on NWS data.

DFN=Departure from normal.

Precipitation days=Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Season cumulative precipitation total starts May 1, 2015.

For more weather information visit www.awis.com or call 1-888-798-9955.

Copyright 2015: Agricultural Weather Information Service, Inc.

All rights reserved.

USDA/NASS/Alaska Field Office
PO Box 799
Palmer, AK 99645

«districtid» «countyid» «poid» AS«activestat»
«opername»
«wholename»
«addrdelive»
«placename», «statealpha» «zip5»-«zip4»